

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the previous listing of claims with the following listing of claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An air introduction device for use in anastomotic leak testing, comprising:

a unitary, elastomeric body defining an interior space and having a proximal portion adapted to be inserted into an anus of a person such that said proximal portion causes the anus to constrict around said proximal portion and thereby seal said proximal portion against the anal wall, a distal portion adapted to mate with a pumping device to enable air to be directed from the pumping device into and through said body and an expanded portion having a larger size than said proximal portion and interposed between said proximal portion and said distal portion, said expanded portion being adapted to engage with an anal opening to limit insertion of said proximal portion into the anus and seal said body against the anal opening.

2. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said proximal portion includes a rounded or tapered tip to facilitate insertion of said proximal portion into the anus.

3. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said expanded portion includes a first truncated conical surface tapering from a circumferential portion having a largest diameter of said expanded portion to said proximal portion and a second truncated conical surface tapering from said largest diameter circumferential portion of said expanded portion to said distal portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said distal portion defines a lumen adapted to receive a connector of an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump.

5. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said body is substantially tubular, said proximal portion being defined by a wall having an outer diameter of about 1.062 inches, said expanded portion being defined by a wall having a maximum outer diameter of about 1.75 inches and said distal portion being defined by a wall having an inner diameter of about 0.375 inches.

6. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said distal portion has first and second arms, said first arm defining a first lumen adapted to receive a connector of an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump, said second arm defining a second lumen ~~and having a closed distal end, said~~

~~second lumen being adapted to receive a visualization device when said distal end is opened.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 6, wherein said second arm includes a constriction ~~between said second lumen and said interior space of said body.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 6, wherein said proximal portion and said expanded portion have a common central axis and said second arm of said distal portion has a central axis parallel to ~~and offset from~~ said common central axis of said proximal portion and said expanded portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said distal portion has first and second arms, said first arm defining a first lumen adapted to receive a connector of an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump, said second arm defining a second lumen, further comprising a pressure relief valve arranged in connection with said second lumen for releasing air when a specific air pressure in the rectum is reached.

10. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 9, further comprising signal means ~~coupled to said second side arm~~ for providing a signal when air is released via said

valve.

11. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 10, wherein said signal means comprise a ~~bill-shaped extension attached to~~ component arranged in connection with said second arm and ~~having at least one flap arranged to vibrate and~~ produce an audible signal when air is released via said valve.

12. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 1, wherein said distal portion has first and second arms, said first arm defining a first lumen adapted to receive a connector of an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump, said second arm defining a second lumen, further comprising a ~~bill-shaped extension attached to~~ component arranged in connection with said second arm and ~~having at least one flap arranged to vibrate and~~ produce an audible signal when ~~air passes through, and which air will pass through only when~~ a specific air pressure is reached within the rectum.

13. (Currently Amended) An air introduction device for use in anastomotic leak testing, comprising
a unitary body defining an interior space and comprising
insertion and sealing means for enabling insertion of a part of said body into an anus of a person such that the anus constricts around said part and thereby seals said body against

the anal wall,

insertion-limiting means for limiting insertion of said part of said body into the anus and occluding an opening of the anus, and

coupling means for enabling coupling of said body to an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump such that air is directable from the ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump through said coupling means into said interior space in said body.

14. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 13, wherein said insertion and sealing means enable insertion of a proximal portion of said body into the anus.

15. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 14, wherein said body is substantially tubular and said insertion-limiting means comprise an expanded portion of said body arranged behind said proximal portion and having a larger diameter than said proximal portion, said expanded portion being adapted to engage with the anal opening to limit insertion of said proximal portion into the anus and seal said body against the anal opening.

16. (Original) The air introduction device of claim 14, wherein said proximal portion includes a rounded tip to facilitate insertion of said proximal portion into the anus.

17. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 13, wherein said coupling means comprise a first lumen arranged on a distal portion of said body and adapted to receive a connector of the ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump.

18. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 17, wherein said distal portion has first and second arms, said first arm defining said first lumen, said second arm defining a second lumen ~~and having a closed distal end, said second lumen being adapted to receive a visualization device when said distal end is opened.~~

19. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim ~~17~~, wherein said distal portion has first and second arms, ~~said first arm defining said first lumen, said second arm defining a second lumen~~ 18, further comprising a pressure relief valve arranged in said second lumen for releasing air when a specific air pressure in the rectum is reached.

20. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 19, further comprising signal means ~~coupled to said valve~~ for providing a signal when air is released via said valve.

21. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of claim 20, wherein said signal means comprise a ~~bill-shaped~~

~~extension attached to component arranged in connection with said~~
~~second arm and having at least one flap arranged to vibrate and~~
~~produce an audible signal when air is released via said valve.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The air introduction device of
~~claim 17 wherein said distal portion has first and second arms,~~
~~said first arm defining first lumen, said second arm defining a~~
~~second lumen 18, further comprising a bill shaped extension~~
~~attached to component arranged in connection with said second arm~~
~~and having at least one flap arranged to vibrate and produce an~~
~~audible signal when air passes through, and which air will pass~~
~~through only when a specific air pressure is reached within the~~
~~rectum.~~

23-32. (Canceled)

33. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An anastomotic leak
tester, comprising:

an ~~insufflation bulb~~ inflation pump having a compressible
central portion, a pair of valves on opposite sides of said
central portion and arranged to provide a uni-directional flow of
air through said central portion upon intermittent compressing of
said central portion, and a connector; and

[[an]] ~~the~~ air introduction device of claim 1 ~~comprising a~~
~~unitary, elastomeric body defining an interior space and having a~~

~~proximal portion adapted to be inserted into an anus of a person such that said proximal portion causes the anus to constrict around said proximal portion and thereby seal said proximal portion against the anal wall, a said distal portion being arranged to mate with said connector of said insufflation bulb to enable air to be directed from said insufflation bulb into and through said body and an expanded portion having a larger size than said proximal portion and interposed between said proximal portion and said distal portion, said expanded portion being adapted to engage with an anal opening to limit insertion of said proximal portion into the anus and seal said body against the anal opening inflation pump.~~

34. (New) The air introduction device of claim 1, further comprising means for generating an audible indication when a specific air pressure in the patient's bowel is reached.

35. (New) The air introduction device of claim 1, further comprising regulating means arranged in connection with said body for regulating air pressure in the patient's bowel.

36. (New) The air introduction device of claim 35, wherein said regulating means are arranged to release air from the patient's bowel when a specific air pressure in the patient's bowel is reached.

37. (New) The air introduction device of claim 35, wherein said regulating means comprise a pressure relief valve having an inlet communicating with said interior space of said body communicating with the patient's bowel and arranged to allow air to be released from the patient's bowel when a specific air pressure in the patient's bowel is reached.

38. (New) The air introduction device of claim 37, further comprising means for generating an audible indication when air is released via said pressure relief valve.

39. (New) The air introduction device of claim 35, wherein said distal portion comprises two arms each of which communicates with said expanded portion, a first one of said arms being receivable of an inflation pump, said regulating means comprising a pressure relief valve arranged in connection with a second one of said arms such that an inlet of said pressure relief valve communicates with said interior space of said body and an outlet of said pressure relief valve communicates with the ambient atmosphere.

40. (New) The air introduction device of claim 35, wherein said regulating means comprise a pressure relief valve structured and arranged such that when the air pressure in the bowel is above a specific air pressure, said pressure relief

valve opens a conduit for air flow from the bowel to the ambient atmosphere.

41. (New) The air introduction device of claim 1, further comprising a mechanism for releasing air from the patient's bowel when a specific air pressure in the patient's bowel is reached and for generating an audible indication when air is being released.

42. (New) The air introduction device of claim 41, wherein said distal portion comprises two arms each of which communicates with said expanded portion, a first one of said arms being receivable of an inflation pump, said mechanism being arranged in connection with a second one of said arms.

43. (New) The air introduction device of claim 41, wherein said mechanism comprises a component having upper and lower flaps.